# ablishers' Alekla THE AMERICAN BOOK TRADE JOURNAL

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Vol. XI., No. 13.

NEW YORK, March 31, 1877. WHOLE No. 272.

Will be published Thursday, April 5th.

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#### MARCH 31, 1877.

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37 PARK ROW, N. Y.

Subscriptions and Advertisements from England received by B. F. Stevens, 17 Henrietta street, Covent Garden, London. Subscriptions from the European Continent filled by E. Steiger, 22 and 24 Frankfort street, New York, and all German booksellers.

#### NOTES IN SEASON.

"THAT LASS O' LOWRIE'S," by Fanny Hodgson Burnett, will be published by Scribner, Armstrong & Co. next week. It is a remarkably vigorous and absorbing story, in the Lancashire dialect, and its originality has made a marked impression on the readers of Scribner's Monthly. It should command a very wide sale. With it will come "How to Camp Out," a practical book of sound advice, which should prove especially salable in college towns.

THE Appletons will shortly publish "Shake-speare from an American Point of View," by Mr. Geo. Wilkes, well known as the originator of the Spirit of the Times. This is an elaborate study of the great dramatist, making a considerable octavo. Miss Kavanagh's new story, "The Two Lilies," will be simultaneously published

"HENRY HOLT & Co. will publish next week he "Handbook of Classic Literature," by C. the "Handbook of Classic Literature," by C. A. White, in the excellent shape of the Gostwick & Harrison's "German Literature," the Class-Room Taine, and Corson's "Handbook of Anglo-Saxon." It is intended to supply the want of a guide to the Greek and Roman authors, biographical details and extracts being given, and chapters on Sanskrit, Persian, Chinese, and Japanese literature. The new English novel, "Bessie Lang," by Alice Corkran, is to be added to the "Leisure Hour Series" at the same time, and the "Flower, Fruit, and Thorn Pieces," two volumes, and "Campaner Thal" will start a "Leisure Hour" edition of Jean Paul Richter's quaint and lovely books, from the plates purchased at the Osgood sale.

Col. Higginson's "Young Folks' Book of American Explorers" is on the eve of publication by Lee & Shepard. It is uniform in style and price with his "Young Folks' History of the United States," and not unlikely will have a similar great popularity. For these stories of discovery and adventure, told by the explorers themselves—the Northmen, Columbus, Cabot, DeSoto, Sir Humphry Gilbert, Capt. John Smith, Henry Hudson, the Plymouth Pilgrims, and the Massachusetts Bay Puritans-have often a quaint, and always a very positive, interest for boys of all ages.

THE coming books at the Putnams' are Mr. Habberton's long-promised volume, "The Scripture Club of Valley Rest," which will be hurried through the press as soon as the author puts on the finishing touches, and Mrs. Put-nam-Jacobi's "Question of Rest for Women," the important book on an important subject, and likely to renew the famous discussion aroused by Dr. Clarke's "Sex in Education." Both these may be expected not far along in April.

J. R. Osgood & Co. will publish in a few days "Deephaven," a charming combination of story and summer-vacation experiences, something like Howells' "Their Wedding Journey," by Miss Sarah O. Jewett. It is to be a "Little Classic" book, and is quite sure—at least is well worthy-to have a "Little Classic" popularity.

ROBERTS BROTHERS have received from London the last advance sheets of Barry Cornwall's Life, and will soon have it ready for the

CARLETON'S New York Weekly series has proved a considerable success, and new volumes follow rapidly. Nos. 4 and 5 are announced elsewhere.

DICK & FITZGERALD will publish, just in time for spring planting, James Hogg's manual of "The Vegetable Garden;" also, a fourth series of Dick's Recitations and Readings.

#### BUSINESS CHANGES.

CINCINNATI, O.-M. V. B. Moroney, bookseller, has made an assignment.

CLEVELAND, O.—Brooks, Schinkel & Co. have added to their regular business of books and stationery newspapers and periodicals, and will have all the magazines, New York and other leading daily and weekly papers, illustrated; religious, scientific, rural, juvenile, etc., etc.; also foreign newspapers and magazines.

LONDON, ONT.—The firm of E. W. Taylor & Co., books, stationery, etc., has been dissolved.

NEW YORK CITY. - Macmillan & Co., requiring increased facilities for carrying on their growing business, will shortly remove to No. 22 Bond street.

PAISLEY, ONT.—The bookstore of Thomas Clark has been closed by the sheriff.

QUEBEC, CAN.—Blondeau & Drouin, dealers in books, stationery, etc., have been succeeded by L. Drouin & Frere.

ROCHESTER, N. Y.-M. Cunningham, dealer in books and stationery, has made an assignment.

#### ALPHABETICAL LIST OF BOOKS JUST PUBLISHED.

The Prices in this List are for cloth lettered, unless otherwise indicated. Imported books are marked with an asterisk: Authors' and Subscription Books, or Books published at net prices, with two asterisks.

- Ashmore. Faithful Margaret. A Novel. By Annie Ashmore. (N. Y. Weekly Series, No. 3.) 12°, pp. 438.
- Atwater.—The Sacred Tabernacle of the Hebrews. Its History and Significance. By Rev. E. E. Atwater, D.D. With 35 full-page ill. New ed. Cr. 8°. Red. to \$2.50. Dodd, M. & Co.
- Aunt Louisa's Bob's School Days.—The Pumpkin House.

  —The Sleeping Beauty.—Diamonds and Toads.—Red Riding Hood. With colored illustr. 4°. Ea., pap., 25 c.

  McLoughlin.

- Gay.—The Prince of Wales in India; or, From Pall Mall to the Punjaub. By J. Drew Gay, Special Correspondent of London Daily Telegraph. Illustr. 12°, pp. 364. \$1.75.

  Worthington.
- Goodwin's Greek Reader. Consisting of Extracts from Xenophon, Plato, Herodotus, and Thucydides; being the full Amount of Greek Prose required for Admission at Harvard. With Maps, Notes, References to Goodwin's Greek Grammar, and parallel References to Crosby's and Hadley's Grammars. Ed. by Prof. W. W. Goodwin Rev. ed. 12°, pp. 384. Hf. mor., \$2...Ginn.
- Hall, Henry. See Spon. all, Henry. See Spon.

  all.—Dyspepsia and its Kindred Diseases. By Dr. W. W. Hall, author of "How to Live Long," etc. 12°, pp.

  Worthington. 272. \$1.50......

- Fap., 80 c...

  Henderson.—New Developments of Algebra. Containing many valuable Rules, Hints, and Suggestions never before published, designed to abridge and facilitate the Labor of Teachers and Students. By T. Henderson. 12°. \$1.

  Claxton.
- Hurst, J. T. See Spon.
- \*Kitchin.—A Hist. of France. By G. W. Kitchin, M.A. Vols. 2 and 3. With maps and ill. Cr. 8°. Per v., \$4.50.

  Macmillan.

- Maclagan.—The Germ Theory of Disease—The Specific Fevers. By T. Maclagan, M.D. 8°. \$3...Macmillan. \*Matheson.—Works in Iron. Bridge and Roof Structures. With Examples of Structures made and erected by Andrew Handyside & Co. Also Vocabulary of Technical

- Miss Hitchcock's Wedding Dress. See Tennyson. ..... McLoughlin.
- Mulock, Miss. See Braddon. Riddell.—Supplement to Lessons on Hand-Railing. Robert Riddell. With 17 new and rev. plates, 4°.
- With 17 new and rev. plates. 4°. \$3. Claxton.
- \*Rigg.—A Practical Treatise on the Steam Engine. Containing Plans and Arrangements of Details for fixed Steam Engines, with Essays on the Principles involved in Design and Construction. By Arthur Rigg, Engineer. (In 12 monthly parts.) Copiously ill. with wood-cuts and plates. Parts 1, 2, and 3. Demy 4°. Per pt., pap., Spon.
- Salm-Salm.—Ten Years of My Life. By the Princess Felix Salm-Salm. 12°, pp. 385. \$1.50....Worthington,
- Sandford and Merton. One Syllable. With col. ill.
- \*Service.—Salvation Here and Hereafter. Sermons and Essays. By Rev. John Service. Second ed. 12°, pp.

  Macmillan. \$1.50....
- Smith and Wace.—A Dictionary of Christian Biography, Literature, Sects, and Doctrines. From the Time of the Apostles to the Age of Charlemagne. By various Writers. Ed. by Wm. Smith, D.C.L., and Rev. Prof. Wace, M.A. [In 3 vols.] Vol. 1. 8°, pp. 926. \$5.50.Little, B. & Co.

- Swiss Family Robinson. One Syllable. With col. ill.
- Taft.—A Practical Treatise on Operative Dentistry. By Jonathan Taft, D.D.S., etc. Third ed., thoroughly rev. and enl. With 228 ill. 8°. \$4.25; leather, \$5.

  Lindsay & B.

- Van Nostrand's Science Series, No. 28. See Stahl. Verne.—Michael Strogoff; or, The Courier of the Czar.

  By Jules Verne. (Moscow — Irkutsk.) Lakeside ed.

  Illustr. 12°, pp. 445. \$1; pap., 50 c. Donnelley, L. & Co.
- Warren.—My Lady Help, and What She Taught Me. By Mrs. Warren, author of "How I Managed my Chil-dren," etc. (Loring's Home Hand-books.) 12°, pp. 136. Pap., 50 c
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Donnelley, Loyd & Co., Chicago, Ill.	Kitchin, Hist. of France, v. 2 and 3Ea. 4.50 Maclagan, Germ Theory of Disease—The
Braddon and Mulock, Joshua Haggard's Daughter and The Laurel BushPap. 15	Specific Fevers
Tennyson, Harold, also Miss Hitchcock's Wedding-Dress	Todhunter, Nat. Philos. for Beginners,
Verne, Michael Strogoff\$1; pap. 50	pt. 1 1 50
GINN & HEATH, Boston.	E. & F. N. SPON, New York.
Goodwin's Greek Reader, rev. ed Hf. mor. 2.00	Andre, Mining Machin'y, pt. 3Pap. 2.00
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Woolley, Science of the Bible 4.00	Rigg, On the Steam Engine, pts. 1-3.
LINDSAY & BLAKISTON, Phila.	Spon's Information for Colonial Engi-
Meigs and Pepper, Diseases of Children, 6th ed	neers, No. 2, So. Africa
\$4.25; leather 5.00	D. VAN NOSTRAND, New York.
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Melville, Rosine	Latham's Johnson's Dict., new ed 5.00 Salm-Salm, Ten Years of my Life 1.50

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS OF FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS.

RESOLVED, That this Convention recognize the Publishers' Weekly as the established organ of the entire trade, and recommend it to publishers as the medium through which they should make their "first announcement" of books they propose to publish, and the full title of all books immediately on publication.—American Book-Trade Association.

#### D. APPLETON & CO., New York.

Shakespeare from an American Point of View. By George Wilkes. 8°.

#### HENRY B. ASHMEAD, Philadelphia.

School Days at Rugby. By an Old Boy. With 6 ill. New ed., printed from new stereotype plates. 12°, pp. 240. \$1. (Shortly.)

Tom Brown at Oxford. A Sequel to "School Days at Rugby." With 6 ill. New ed., printed from new stereotype plates. 12°, pp. 544. \$1.50. (Shortly.)

#### G. W. CARLETON & CO., New York.

New York Weekly Series: -No. 4. Lady Leonora. By Carrie Conklin. -No. 5. Curse of Everleigh. By Ellen Corwin Pierce.

#### DICK & FITZGERALD, New York.

The Vegetable Garden. By James Hogg. 16°, pp. 140. 50 c.; pap., 30 c. (Apl. 10.)

Dick's Recitations and Readings, No. 4. 16°, pp. 180. 50 c.; pap., 30 c. (Apl. 10.)

#### DONNELLEY, LOYD & CO., Chicago.

The Adventures of Mr. Verdant Green. By Cuthbert Bede. (Lakeside Lib.) With 150 ill. 4°. Pap., 50 c. (Apl. 7.)

The Black Hills, and American Wonderland. By H. N. Maguire. (Lakeside Lib.) Ill. 4°. Pap., 25 c. (Apl.)

#### HENRY HOLT & CO., New York.

Leisure Hour Series: - Flower, Fruit, and Thorn Pieces. By Jean Paul Richter. 2 vols. - Campana Thal. By Jear Paul Richter.

#### KAY & BROTHER, Philadelphia.

Wharton on Evidence. By Francis Wharton, LL.D. 2 vols. (Apt.)

Kerr on Receivers. 2d ed. Ed. by G. T. Bispham. (Apl.)

#### McLOUGHLIN BROS., New York.

The Baby's Opera. Illustr. Cap 4°, pp. 56. Fancy varnished pap., \$1. (May 1.)

#### S. A. MILLER, 8 W. 3d st., Cincinnati, O.

The American Palæozoic Fossils. By S. A. Miller. 8°, pp. 275. \$3. (June 1.)

#### G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS, New York.

My Soldier. By Miss Warner.

Lectures on the History of Protection in the United States. By Prof. W. G. Sumner. (Pub. for "The International Free Trade Alliance.")

## The Publishers' Weekly.

MARCH 31, 1877.

PUBLISHERS are requested to furnish title-page proofs and advance information of books forthcoming, both for entry in the lists and for descriptive mention. An early copy of each book published should be forwarded, to insure correctness in the final entry.

The trade are invited to send "Communications" to the editor on any topic of interest to the trade and as to which

The trade are invited to send "Communications" to the editor on any topic of interest to the trade, and as to which an interchange of opinion is desirable. Also, matter for "Notes and Queries." Notes from librarians will also be gratefully received.

In case of business changes, notification or card should be immediately sent to this office for entry under "Business Notes." New catalogues issued will also be mentioned when forwarded.

"Every man is a debtor to his profession, from the which, as men do of course seek to receive countenance and profit, so ought they of duty to endeavor themselves by way of amends to be a help thereunto."—LORD BACON.

## THE EFFECTS OF THE DISSOLUTION OF THE BOARD.

THE dissolution of the school-book publishers' Board of Trade raises several interesting questions as to the probable results of that action. The first mooted point is the question of agents, and on this opinion is directly divided. Some believe the dissolution will not increase the use of agents, since, as they say, the trade must have learned wisdom by experience, while others argue that the re-establishment of the old obnoxious and expensive abuses is only a question of time. The Board forbid, under heavy penalty, the bribing or other corruption of school officials or other persons and the demoralizing practice of "swapping" books. There is now no restriction against such practices except the moral sense of publishers and the influence upon their pockets. If there was ever any hope of entirely abolishing the agency system by general agreement, that hope goes literally "by the Board." It is now a matter of individual decision, and practically any one publisher is afraid to do away with agents for fear his books will be "run out" of the schools by the agents of his rival.

We doubt, indeed, whether the agency system could be entirely and permanently abolished, even if general agreement were obtained for a time. Experience has shown, in the case of the twenty per cent rule, that where agreeing houses are not heartily in favor of an agreement, it is easy for somebody or other to get around it without severe punishment, and the Board of Trade was obliged to meet this difficulty in the agency matter by the exceptional rule of holding an accused house guilty unless it could prove its innocence. One or two leading houses believe in agents as an essential feature of the school-book business, and it can readily be

seen that when a house publishes a new set of books, or improves an old set, or discerns a new market for its issues, it would naturally desire to present the merits of its books directly to those having the choice of books. This is perfectly legitimate, and if this were all, nothing could be said against the agency system. It is its abuse, not its use, that is objectionable.

As a matter of opinion, the publishers recognize that agency abuses do nobody any good. The practical difficulty is that A's agent "sees a chance" and makes the most of it, and then B's agent knows that he is no longer likely to be called to account if he takes his turn in revenge. It is a game of "follow my leader." The practical remedy comes from the experience that any temporary advantage thus gained is soon laid hold on by the general trade, and that everybody is in the same relative position as before, but with money and conscience out of pocket. This experience the trade has had, but in the fierceness of competition it is apt to be forgotten. If it were backed up by the public opinion that it is not respectable for principals to permit agents to do dishonorable things, there would be less danger of a return to old evils.

The cause which was to some extent efficient in dissolving the Board—public feeling—has been active in inducing a return to the old system of a wholesale list as the basis of schoolbook prices. As school-books are studied by a class, not read by an individual, this wholesale basis seems to some extent logical here, ruinous as it might prove in the case of miscellaneous books. The extra discount allowed to the trade is certainly not sufficient to cover the expense of keeping and handling a stock of books, should the wholesale price prove, as is feared, the general price. The theory is that twenty-five per cent is to be added to this on single copies, while the rigid adherence to the new scale will give the retail trade as much as it has practically been getting on sales by the quantity. We may point out that unless this rigid adherence is maintained, retail school business must be conducted at a loss. On the other hand, small fealizable discounts are better than large nominal ones.

The dissolution of this Board leaves the publishers without any general representative of the publishing, interest, unless measures are taken to make the A. B. T. A. what it should be. The legislative restrictions of the latter have become a dead letter, largely because leading houses of the trade have been in very negative sympathy with the organization. It goes without saying that there should be some effective organization of the publishing interest,

and what can be profitably done is illustrated in one way by the Stationers' Board of Trade: an earlier organization of the publishers would have saved the trade thousands of dollars in addition to the thousands saved by that now popular and remarkably efficient bureau. The most feasible plan suggested seems to be the modification of the A. B. T. A., preserving its present organization, but turning its scope from legislation to other fields.

Politeness costs little, and a commercial traveller is quite as much entitled to it as any one. That he does not always receive it is illustrated by a recent instance in which a country merchant not only refused to talk with the member of a New York stationery firm who called on him, but offensively tore up his card in his presence. A courteous declination to look over samples is of course in order; but uncivil treatment reflects chiefly upon the man who offers it. Unless a traveller becomes offensive in his insistance, he has certainly the right to be treated as a gentleman.

This issue contains a double supplement, giving, as promised, the monthly lists of the past two months in separate shape for reference files or other separate use, and the Literary News for April. We desire to call the especial attention of the trade, particularly those visiting New York and preparing to push their local trade, to the advantages of this useful and inexpensive imprint circular. We shall make especial endeavors, during the rest of the year, to make this much more attractive to the book-buyer and helpful to the bookseller than it has been heretofore. The list will be confined to those more prominent books which every dealer is likely to keep in stock, and will thus no longer be lost among a discouraging quantity of titles. Bright extracts will be given from new books, and the "Literary Notes" will be made more interesting and more generally representative. Those of the trade who have used editions of the Literary News bear cheerful testimony that "it pays," and we trust others will try the experiment. The few dollars can be spent in no better way to attract a class of steady book-buyers.

#### "THE CAT OUT OF THE BAG."

We have the pleasure of presenting, for the consideration of legislators interested in the subject of "cheap school-books," the following circular sent to the school-book publishers by the dealer in whose hands the State of Minnesota has undertaken to place itself for the next fifteen years. We have once or twice remarked

that the State could do better with the regular publishers: that is also what Mr. Merrill seems to think. He is certainly to be congratulated on his little margin and the "two pages of advertising matter" to be furnished by the State:

#### SCHOOL TEXT-BOOK

#### FOR THE STATE OF MINNESOTA.

1st. At what price will you sell me a complete set of electrotype or stereotype plates, including the use of the copyright of the same, for one or more books? The subject-matter must be equal to and include as many pages, or an equivalence in matter, as the corresponding book named herein:

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s Primary (	Geograph	y	96
Brief Histo	гу		338
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And such other text books as you may have, which you think adapted for use in Common and Grammar Schools. Send samples of each of the books offered, and terms of sale of each.

2d. At what price will you lease, for the full term of 20 years, including the use of the copyright of the same, a complete set of Stereotype or Electrotype plates, for one or more books, equal in all respects to the kinds above named?

Send samples of each book you offer, and the terms of said lease.

3d. At what price will you furnish, for the term of five years, delivered in St. Paul, Minn., books of one or more, of similar kinds, and equal in every respect to the books above named, and to include a lease of a complete set of plates and use of the copyright of the same, for the full term of 20 years? The books to be paid for on an average of three months' time from the receipt of the same. Name each book separately and distinctly, and send samples.

4th. At what price will you furnish the same, and upon the same conditions, delivered upon the cars in your city, addressed and shipped as directed by me?

5th. At what price will you furnish said books in the same manner and upon the same conditions, for the term of ten years, at St. Paul, all matter subject to such revision as I may indicate after five years?

6th. At what price will you furnish said books in the same manner and upon the same conditions, for the term of ten years, upon the cars in your city?

7th. At what price the same, upon the same terms and conditions, and the text subject to two revisions, for the term of fifteen years, at St. Paul?

8th. At what price the same, upon the same terms and conditions, for the term of fifteen years, upon the cars in your city?

In all the books to be furnished, the titlepage and the first page of the cover to be subject to such changes as I may indicate, and the last page of the cover of paper-bound books to be new matter for my own use, and subject to such change, from year to year, as I may indicate. In cloth-bound books I shall require at least two pages of advertizing matter, subject to said changes.

DANIEL D. MERRILL, St. Paul, Minnesota.

## THE AMERICAN NEWS CO.'S NEW BUILDING.

THE AMERICAN NEWS Co. moved on Monday from its old quarters at 121 Nassau street, which it long since outgrew, to its new and fine building, reaching from Chambers street through to Reade, opposite the New Court House, on the site of what was once Burton's Theatre, and has since been used as the U.S. Court building. The new structure, begun in May, 1876, designed by Mr. Griffith Thomas, and built under contract by Mr. John Sniffen, is a business palace and a welcome addition to New York store architecture. It has a frontage on each street of 75 feet and a depth of 150 feet. The Chambers-street front is four stories high, a handsome façade of Philadelphia brick trimmed with corners of Concord granite, in Romanesque style, and surmounted by the happy design of a New York newsboy crying his papers, below which is the date 1876. The Reade-street front, similar but less elaborate, is of five stories, the street being one story lower than Chambers. This permits an exceptionally convenient arrangement for receiving and delivering goods, the Chambers-street basement being the ground floor on Reade street, at which on either side of the building are two goods and two passenger elevators, wisely encased in brick wells, whose walls provide against the spread of fire. This story is used, besides the purposes of general receipt and delivery, for the handling of newspapers by editions and in large quantities for wholesale dealers. The sub-basement, to which the elevators descend, is used for the boilers and engines—which respectively hoist the elevators. supply steam through the building for heating purposes, and run a huge newspaper folder of Chambers Brothers' patent-and for storage purposes.

The spacious main story, opening from Chambers street, compares with the Scribners' fine store. On either side, at the front, two handsome stairways lead to the second story, and at the back are the tasteful private offices of Mr. Patrick Farrelly, the general manager, and his immediate assistants. The fittings throughout are in light wood, the chandeliers of green bronze. The interior is divided virtually into three parts: the division at the right, separated by wire netting, is devoted to the retail and city newspaper trade, and here, each in its bin or pigeon-hole, may be found the thousand and one newspapers for which this great establishment is the chief distributing agency. On either side of the central aisle are shelves and bins lettered with the names and containing the stock of the leading publishers, while the lefthand part of the store is devoted to the run of paper and other minor books, On the second story, the Chambers-street front is given up to the elegantly-fitted private offices of the president, secretary, etc., of the company, and the Reade-street front to the book-keepers and

clerks. The body of the floor is occupied entirely by the stationery stock, and around both the first and second floors runs a gallery, so that every foot of wall-space is utilized for the dis-position of goods. The third story is given up to the packers, and the fourth is occupied for the country newspaper trade. The floor looks like the newspaper department of the New York Post-Office: long rows of bins, six or seven high, are lettered in alphabetical order with the names of country dealers ordering through this house. As each order is made up, a printed label to the customer's address, found in the bin, is laid on top of the pile, which is thus delivered to the packers. Great bags receive the packages for individual States or routes, and are delivered by the elevators to the wagons on Reade street. The building throughout is admirably adapted to its purposes, and shows that same genius for organizatton which has given this company the virtual monopoly of the news trade.

#### STATIONERY NOTES.

"WORD MAKING AND WORD-TAKING" is one of the latest games out, and may be played by any number of persons. This game is said to be one of the most amusing, interesting, and simple games yet published, and wherever used has become the most popular and interesting game among both old and young. It is copyrighted by C. E. Hammett, Jr., Newport, R. I. The trade is supplied by Willy Wallach, 4 Beekman street, New York. Retail price, 25c.

ROBERT SNEIDER, 37 John street, New York, has got up a new style of paper which he calls "The Oxford." It is a square-note size, with envelopes to match, the paper being an Oxford plaid in tints of twenty-four delicate shades. Each box contains twenty-four sheets and twenty-four envelopes, and sells at \$12 per dozen boxes to the trade. His Shakespearian Texts come in book-form boxes, containing one quire and pack of envelopes, and are on superfine English paper. The mottoes are of eight different selections, and are printed on the upper left-hand corner, while the envelopes are perfectly plain. They sell at \$7.50 per dozen In Billet de Correspondence, and notepaper and envelopes, he has just put up new styles, with days of the week in plain and illuminated colors. The "A Tout Jour" is the latest, in one-quire-and-pack boxes, selling at \$7.50 per dozen.

Perry & Co. are packing their U. M. and B. Pens in handsome boxes containing one quarter gross each, which will materially enhance their sales. The London house is compelled to move from Red Lion Square, where it has been for many years, owing to the London street improvements, for which their premises were required. It will remove to 19 and 20 Holborn Viaduct, E.C., where the wholesale trade will be carried on.

J. A. McQuillan is now the manager of the Ryan Paper Box, Manufactory, 214 Centre street, New York. Mr. McQuillan has been for a long time connected with the book and stationery trade as travelling agent, lately with Pott, Young & Co. His friends on the road will no doubt miss his genial countenance.

MR. LEVISON, of Levison & Blythe, St. Louis,

is in town, picking up a few specialties in the stationery line.

WILL HORN, of Koch Sons & Co., has just returned from the West, having had a fair trade.

CHARLEY, REED, of J. L. Reed & Son, Pittsburgh, is in town; he reports improvement in trade in that locality.

McLoughlin Bros., New York, have ready their new game of "Familiar Quotations from Popular Authors," which retails at 25 cents, and will undoubtedly meet with a good demand.

We have just received from Sydney J. Saunders & Co., London, their new illustrated pricelist of novelties in English stationery for March, which the importing stationery trade should consult.

THE sending of "Easter cards" is a pleasant English fashion that we look to see introduced into this country. Marcus Ward & Co. have this year published eighty new varieties.

#### LITERARY AND TRADE NOTES.

THE defeat of school-book legislation in Wisconsin is said to be largely due to the action of State Superintendent Searing, who, with the endorsement of leading teachers and college presidents, sent a circular to the legislature giving the real facts in the case. He showed "that an existing law of the State allows any school-board in the State to purchase text-books and to loan free, rent, or sell the same at cost to pupils; that such boards can buy such books at wholesale, at a discount of 40 per cent from retail prices; that two hundred and sixty-seven boards were reported as already availing themselves of this law, although it is only two years in operation; that this plan secures all the uniformity that is desirable; that an existing law provides that after regular adoption of a series of books by a board for its schools, no change shall be made for three years; that these two laws are all the legislation needed in the interests of the schools and the people, because under them the best school-books in the world can be had at a very reasonable price."

D. APPLETON & Co. have issued a new whole-sale list of educational books, at 30 per cent off previous retail prices, and will soon publish a new retail list at 25 per cent added to new wholesale prices, equal to 12½ off the old retail rates. The new wholesale price will thus be 20 per cent off new retail price, with a very limited discount extra to the trade only. This is the present general tendency. D. Appleton & Co. are also issuing a series of neat 12mo full-title lists of the several departments of their publications. They are exceedingly useful for general purposes, especially for letter enclosure and for slipping in or binding with new books, but are less desirable for trade purposes.

MR. J. W. BOUTON, 706 Broadway, has now on exhibition in a separate room the remarkable collection of extra illustrated works acquired by him some months ago. The series cost nearly \$40,000 and is offered at about one fourth that price. The Boydell Shakespeare, Bentley Milton, and Abbotsford Waverley, Irving's Washington, Moore's Byron, and Ticknor's Prescott are among the works illustrated,

and to some of these sets there are more than 4000 plates.

A CATALOGUE of the American Palæozoic Fossils, arranged in alphabetical order under each class, and covering 12,000 genera and species, with particulars of etymology, geological position, etc., is to be published by the author, S. A. Miller, 8 West Third street, Cincinnati. Including an introduction in palæozoic geology and organic life, it will make a volume of 275 pages, at \$3.

SORRENTO and inlaid work is now so popular that it is worth while to call the attention of the trade to the fact that the "Complete and Practical Manual on Scroll Sawing," by Arthur Hope, formerly published by John Wilkinson, Chicago, is transferred to the list of G. P. Putnam's Sons. This is a comprehensive guide to practical work, with fifty full-size designs.

WEST, JOHNSTON & Co. issue a second edition of "Meekins's Twinses," by Geo. W. Bagby, with an addition in the way of a list of "oil paintings, statchers, and artikils uv virchu and bigutry havin bin giv' in aid uv Meekins and famly" on exhibition at "Addums's Art Galry Anex to Fede Sto' and Konfexnery." This ridiculously funny brochure has had a great success, the publishers tell us.

THE Putnams will shortly publish, for the International Free-Trade Alliance, the "Lectures on the History of Protection in this Country" delivered by Prof. W. G. Sumner, of Yale, in this city last year. They will be a considerable addition to the literature of economics in this country.

THE new novel by Miss Warner, to be published by G. P. Putnam's Sons, will be called "My Soldier."

THE English trade "subscribed" 42,000 copies of "Pickwick" in Chapman & Hall's new two-shilling edition of Dickens.

THE London Bookseller for March has ten pages of "Books Wanted" advertisements. The American trade is slow to learn the full value of this department.

ROBERT CARTER & Bros. have reduced the price of both their editions of Henry's Commentary, the English and the American, to \$20.

DONNELLEY, LOYD & Co., Chicago, have just issued a cheap, compactly-printed, illustrated edition of Jules Verne's "Michael Strogoff."

New Music Received.—From John Church & Co., Cincinnati: Kentucky Rose, a song, by Walter Bray, 30 cts.; He Knows, a posthumous song of P. P. Bliss, 30 cts.

From S. T. Gordon & Son, New York: La

From S. T. Gordon & Son, New York: La petite Charmante, valse brillante, composed by Adolph Pferdner, op. 42, 50 cts.; My Love's a big Drum Major, serio-comic song, by Jos. P. Skelly, 30 cts.; I love thee (Amo), romanza, music by Tito Mattei, 40 cts.; I See thy Sweet Face in my Dreams, music by W. H. Brockway 40 cts.; Beauties of Lohengrin de R. Wagner, Elsa's Dream, by F. Liszt, 30 cts.; I only just Wanted to Know, You Know, serio-comic song, by Jos. P. Skelly, 30 cts.; You may Kiss me and Caress me, and I won't say No, music by Chas. McCarthy, 35 cts.; Friendship's Gift, a collection of popular pieces simplified by E.

Mack: Not before Pa polka, Linsdale; Cagliostro waltz, Strauss; First Kiss waltz, La Mothe, each, 30 cts.

#### BOOK NOTICES.

HARPER'S HALF-HOUR SERIES.—"Thompson Hall," by Anthony Trollope; "When the Ship Comes Home," by Walter Besant and James Rice; "The Turks in Europe," by Edward A. Freeman. (Harper.) These are the opening volumes of a miniature series of books the Harpers are about issuing, to contain essays, tales, scientific treatises, works of travel and biography, handbooks for travellers, etc., etc. Some of the little books will be illustrated and will contain maps. They will all be issued uniform in size and binding, printed in fine, clear type, and placed at such a very low price that almost every one can become the possessor of quite an extensive miscellaneous library. The first story is a Merry Christmas tale of misadventure ending happily with marriage bells. 20 cents; The second is by the well-known authors of "The Golden Butterfly," and is a romantic and stirring tale. 25 cents. "The Turks in Europe" has already been noticed in our columns. 15 cents.

Through Persia by Caravan, by Arthur Arnold. (Harper.) This is the record of a journey made by the author of "From the Levant" with his wife, in the summer and winter of 1875–76, through Russia and Persia. Their course was from Warsaw to St. Petersburg, and thence southward to Astrakhan. They then traversed the Caspian Sea from extreme north to south, landing at Enzelli, which they left in October for an extended tour through Persia. They rode through the whole length of Persia—a distance of more than a thousand miles—arriving at the Persian Gulf in February. The volume is an extremely interesting one, full of information and adventure. 12mo, cloth, \$1.75.

FREE PRISONERS, by Jane W. Bruner. (Claxton, R. & H.) A story of California Life in '49. The plot is a long and intricate one, chiefly turning upon the abduction of two children, who do not discover their real parents until quite grown up. A number of other events lend interest to the book, robberies, murders, broken vows, and unhappy marriages abounding in it. 12mo, cloth, \$1.50.

THE BLESSED HOPE, by Willis Lord, D.D. (W. G. Holmes, Chicago.) The "Blessed Hope" set forth in this work is the second coming of the Lord, said to be foretold in the prophecies of the New Testament. To fully establish the doctrine, extracts from the books of the New Testament are given at length throughout. 12mo, cloth, \$1.25.

DREAM OF A FREE-TRADE PARADISE, AND OTHER SKETCHES, by Cyrus Elder. (Henry Carey Baird & Co.) These sketches, published anonymously, from time to time, during the last four years, are now reproduced in book form. They discuss and illustrate in a humorous and familiar style a subject popularly regarded as heavy and, as the author says, "caviare to the general." A few of the titles are "Pig-Iron and Potatoes," "Talk at the Grocery," "Protection in England," "What is a Tariff?" "A Chapter from Gulliver," etc. 30 cents.

Rosine, by J. G. Whyte Melville. (Lovell, A., W. & Co.) A story of the French revolution, beginning with the first threatenings of danger against the king and queen, and ending with the execution of Marie Antoinette. Rosine is a peasant girl who is persecuted by an unprincipled young nobleman. She goes to Paris with her grandmother and her bethrothed, a young peasant like herself, and is a witness of and an actor in many exciting and terrible scenes. A story of exceeding interest and power. 8vo, paper, 50 cents.

THE PRINCE OF WALES IN INDIA, by J. Drew Gay. (Worthington.) Mr. Gay was the special correspondent of the London Daily Telegraph. It was his duty to shadow the Prince and inform the world of all the happy and unhappy incidents attending his Oriental tour. That he was faithful every one will admit after reading his book. It tells the whole story of the Serapis and her valuable crew, and a detailed account of the Prince's reception in India, much of which the world is already familiar with. Illustrated. 12mo, cloth, \$1.75.

DYSPEPSIA, by Dr. W. W. Hall. (Worthington.) Aside from its subject, this work is one of special interest, being the last from the pen of the late eminent editor of the Journal of Health. It is full of information regarding a disease that might almost be termed an indigenous one with us; it tells the causes which produce it, and the best methods of getting rid of it and keeping free from it. It is written in a popular style that recommends it to every one. 12mo, cloth, \$1.50.

LIFE OF A SCOTCH NATURALIST, by Samuel Smiles. (Harper.) Thomas Edward, the subject of this biography, is a poor shoemaker, still living in the small town of Banff, Scotland. Mr. Smiles made mention of him in "Self-Help," almost eighteen years ago, as one of the most extraordinary examples of perseverance in the cause of science he had ever met with. The man still works at his bench, in almost abject poverty, after a lifetime spent in the pursuit of knowledge under every difficultypoverty, ill health, and ignorance of the commonest elementary education. His life is in every way an extraordinary one, and well deserves the attention Mr. Smiles has bestowed It is not only full of lessons, but is upon it. exceedingly amusing; the stories of Edward's early years, and the manner in which his ruling passion continually betrayed itself, being very laughable. There is a portrait of Edward, and a number of illustrations by Mr. George Reid. 12mo, cloth, \$1.50.

TEN YEARS OF MY LIFE, by the Princess Felix Salm-Salm. (Worthington.) The Princess Salm-Salm's diary begins in 1862, when she was married to the Prince. Her husband served through our war as Colonel of the 8th, and afterwards of the 68th, New York Regiment. He afterwards followed Maximilian to Mexico, serving him faithfully, witnessing his tragical death, and suffering imprisonment on his account. The last years of his life were spent in Europe, in the Prussian army, aiding in the overthrow of Napoleon. Through all these stirring scenes the Princess accompanied him, making the acquaintances of the highest personages, exercising her wit and talents in her husband's behalf and for his advancement. In the Mexican episode she played quite a prominent part, doing her utmost to avert the tragical fate of the emperor. She writes with intelligence and wit, describing people and events in a very graphic and interesting way. 12mo, cloth, \$1.50.

FROM DAWN TO NOON, by Violet Fane-(Carleton.) "Violet Fane" is said to be the pseudonym of an Irish lady, Mrs. Cecil Singleton, who first published the poems embraced in this volume in England in 1873. She is well and favorably known here through a story in verse, "Constance's Fate;" readers who read and enjoyed that will take great pleasure in the warm and amatory effusions contained in the present work. 12mo, cloth, \$1.50.

A TEXT-BOOK OF MINERALOGY, by Edward Salisbury Dana. (Wiley.) The preparation of a "Text-Book of Mineralogy" was undertaken

in 1868 by Prof. J. D. Dana. The state of his health, however, early compelled him to relinquish the work, and he was not able subsequently to resume it. After the lapse of seven years, the editorship of the volume was finally placed in the hands of Mr. E. S. Dana, who has carried out as far as possible the original plan. The work is intended to meet the requirements of class instruction; with this end in view, the descriptive part has been made subordinate to the more important subjects embraced under Physical Mineralogy. The Crystallography is presented after the methods of Naumann. For use in calculations a concise exposition of Miller's system has been added in the appendix. The descriptive part of the work is an abridgment of Dana's "System of Mineralogy." The volume contains upwards of eight hundred woodcuts and one colored plate. 8vo, cloth, \$5.

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Fuller. Boston, 1867.
Blow's Lectures on Kindergarten.
Sabine on Duelling. Boston, 1855.
Furness, Domestic Worship. Phila., 1850.
Kossuth's Speeches. N. Y., 1854.
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Any volume of Poems of T. H. Chivers, Phila.

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APRIL, 1877.

#### THE SPRING ANNOUNCEMENTS.

THE AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY will publish an interesting study of "The Apostles' Preaching," by the author of the "Peep of Day" books.

D. APPLETON & Co. will soon have ready the volume of their Annual Cyclopædia for 1876, which will be especially full in its record of the Centennial and of the Presidential election. Lieut. Payer's finely illustrated work on "The Austrian Arctic Expedition," a book of very general interest, will be their spring book of widest popularity. Mr. James Freeman's pleasant papers from "An Artist's Portfolio," describing people and life in artist Rome, will be reprinted from the Journal in "Little Classic" size. In fiction, new books by Julia Kavanagh, "The Two Lilies," and Christian Reid, "After Many Days," may be expected, and Miss Constance Fenimore Woolson's striking narrative poem of the war, "Two Women," will be issued in a volume, with some revisions made since its appearance in the *Journal*. Herbert Spencer's "Principles of Sociology," an integral part of his great philosophical system, is very nearly ready, and in the economic and educa-tional field there will be also a pamphlet on the silver question by M. Henri Cernuschi, the Italian advocate of a double standard, and two additions to Mr. Green's little Literature Primers, "Classical Geography," by H. F. Tozer, and "Philology," by John Peile, the latter of which is spoken of abroad as really a remark-

A. S. BARNES & Co. have already orders for 5000 copies of the "Memoirs of P. P. Bliss," which will contain tributes by Messrs. Whittle, Moody, Sankey, and others, and the music of Mr. Bliss' unpublished songs (by arrangement with John Church and Co.) The "Students' Commonplace Book, interleaved, will serve the double purpose of a key to writers and authorities, and of a scrap and note-book.

ROBERT CARTER & Bros. will publish in April or May the autobiography and memoir of the distinguished Scotch clergyman, Rev. Wm. Arnot, edited by his daughter; a study of the life and character of "Abraham, the Friend of

God," by Rev. Dr. Oswald Dykes; a religious tale of the days of Trajan, "The End of the Church," by H. M. Dickinson; and a couple of juveniles.

JOHN CHURCH & Co. promise the complete songs of the late P. P. Bliss for next month. The wide fame of Mr. Bliss' songs and his sad fate have made a very large class of readers interested in anything that concerns him.

ROBERT CLARKE & Co. expect to publish soon the announced Washington-Cranford correspondence, in which there is much general interest

CLAXTON, REMSEN & HAFFELFINGER have already issued most of their books, but it is quite in season to recall the attention of the trade to "the blue-glass book"—or the blue ink book—which has succeeded in giving the blues to most everybody.

THOS. Y. CROWELL has nearly ready the second series of Rev. Dr. Elon Foster's "Cyclopedia of Prose Illustration," a work useful both to writers and speakers.

DODD, MEAD & Co. have nearly ready "A Manual of Practical Cookery and Economical Household Management," by Miss Corson, of the New York Cooking School.

DONNELLY, LOYD & Co., Chicago, have in press Mr. H. N. Maguire's book on the Black Hills, a book which includes twelve years' experience of that interesting region.

E. P. DUTTON & Co. will publish the posthumous "Notes on Genesis" of that sweet and liberal Englishman, Frederick W. Robertson, and also a new edition of his Complete Sermons, in one volume.

ESTES & LAURIAT will, during the coming season, publish translations of several novels by Alphonse Daudet, whose "Sidonie" has shown that he may look for an American as well as European fame. Among these novels are "Le Nabob," "Tartarin of Tarascon," "Robert Helmont," and "Jacques."

[Continued on page 5.]

## The Literary News.

APRIL, 1877.

Any book or article mentioned in this paper supplied at the shortest notice.

#### THE BEST READING.

To say first what "the best reading" is, in general terms, is like prescribing a universal panacea for the gout, small-pox, and the toothache. "Good for corns!" said the accommodating vendor of salve to the Harvard student. "Haven't got any corns." "Good for sprains!" "Haven't got any sprains." "Good to spread on your bread instead of butter!" And he left with a boot after him. It is somewhat after this fashion that the advocates of cut-and-dried courses of reading commend their nostrum to all sorts of people of all kinds of temperament and of all degrees of education. Few medicines do equally well for different men, and one is tempted to say that a man's best reading is what he "has a mind to," if he has a mind at all.

There are really two factors in the problem, the books and the people. The number of books is legion. Printing dates only from the fifteenth century, yet by 1500, 20,000 editions of books had been published. The great Library at Paris has two million volumes, and the British Museum has 40,000 publications on the single subject of the English Rebellion. German bibliographer, who wants to make a universal catalogue, estimates that he would have three million titles to enter, and others think him below the mark. In 1876, 13,642 books were registered in France; 13,356 in Germany; 4888 in England; 4010 at our Library of Congress (though these figures are not safe standards for direct comparison, since the scope of entry differs). An old scholar, Lenglet du Fresnoy, calculated that nobody could read more than 900 folio volumes in a lifetime; this amounts to about 10,000 volumes as books run in our day. No man can read everything, or half of everything, or a tenth of everything. What, then, is "the best reading"?

That depends, again, on the people. It is said that an educated man ought to know "something about everything and everything about something"—the something of his particular calling. Translated into the language of books, this means that a reader should have a fair knowledge of general literature and a close knowledge of the books of his profession or the specialty to which his tastes lead him. Thus his conversation has a common meeting-ground with everybody, and can inform on his specialty.

The foundation of a private library should thus be the works of general knowledge, the dictionary, the cyclopedia, the gazetteer, and works of standard authors, on the one hand, and on the other favorite books and professional worksto which light reading and the general books of the day are naturally added. In the next number of our little journal we hope to find space to reprint, from the Library Journal, a paper in which Mr. Justin Winsor, head of the Boston Public Library,-" the people's university," as they call it,-gives his valuable advice as to the best reference-books. For the important purpose of a key to the best books on individual subjects we commend our readers to "The Best Reading," edited by Mr. F. B. Perkins. of the same institution, recently issued in a revised edition. President Porter's "Books and Reading" is valuable to suggest, without dictating, courses.

With such facts in mind and such help at hand, the reader and book-buyer—and all readers should be book-buyers—must decide what books he ought to read in the time he can devote to the purpose. With an intelligent outlook on the field, this will give him his "best reading." Some of these books will be old, many new. Those that contain facts he is likely to need, or thoughts that are likely to give him renewed help, he ought certainly to own if he can. It is in this wise he should plan his reading and his private library, and no man should hold his head up in this country unless he is a reader and has begun some collection of books.

THE second edition of that enormously and deservedly praised book, Wallace's Russia, is nearly ready.

THE sale of "Noblesse Oblige," recently published in the "Leisure Hour Series," seems to be increasing the older it gets.

THE devotees of the metric system will be glad to hear of the reissue, by the Metric Bureau, of Putnam's "Metric System of Weights and Measures."

THE latest sensations in songs are sent to us by Mr. Louis Meyer, the enterprising publisher of Philadelphia. One is a Lullaby by Adam Geibel, already so well known as one of our sweetest and most sympathetic singers and composers of instrumental music. It is a song in G Major for mezzo soprano that is sure to find favor. The words are from Holland's lovely poem "The Mistress of the Manse," and Mr. Geibel has adapted them in his happiest vein. The other is Ralph Roland's song and chorus, "Are you Tired of me, Darling?" a pleasing and popular song, sure to take with all lovers of such music.

Of "The Jericho Road," now acknowledged by Mr. Habberton, 10,000 copies have been sold by Jansen, McClurg & Co., and a London edition is in progress.

#### BITS FROM BOOKS.

RAMMING FOR A LITERARY DINNER.-Gilead Beck sought the nearest bookseller's shop and gave an extensive order. He requested to be furnished with all the works of Carlyle, Ruskin, Tennyson, Swinburne, Browning, Buchanan, Huxley, Darwin, and a few more. Then he returned to the Langham, and gave orders that he was at home to no one except Mr. Dunquerque, took off his coat, lighted a cigar, ordered more champagne, and began the first of the three most awful days he ever spent in all his life.

The books presently came in a great box, and he spread them on the table with a heart that sunk at the mere contemplation of their numbers—about three hundred volumes in all. And only four days to get through them! Seventy-five volumes a day, say, at the rate of fifteen hours' daily work; five an hour, one every twelve minutes. He laid his watch upon the table, took the first volume of Robert Browning that was uppermost, sat down in his long chair with his feet up, and began.

The book was "Fifine at the Fair." Gilead Beck read cheerfully and with great ease the first eight or ten pages. Then he discovered with a little annoyance that he understood nothing whatever of the author's meaning. "That comes of too rapid reading," he said. So he turned back to the beginning, and began Ten minutes again with more deliberation. clean wasted, and not even half a volume got through. When he had got to the tenth page for the second time, he questioned himself once more, and found that he understood less than ever. Were things right? Could it be Browning, or some impostor? Yes; the name of Robert Browning was on the title-page; also it was English. And the words held together, and were not sprinkled out of a pepper-pot. He began a third time. Same result. threw away his cigar and wiped his brow, on which the cold dews of trouble were gathering thickly. . . . He stood up to his work, leaning against a window-post, and took two pages first, which he read very slowly. And then he dropped the volume in dismay, because he understood less than nothing. . he began to construe it line by line, thinking

every now and then that he saw daylight. . . . "It's like the texts of a copy-book," said Gilead. "Pretty things, all of them, separate. Put them together, and where are they? I guess this book would read better upsy down."... Two hours were gone. There ought to have been ten volumes got through, and not ten pages finished of a single one. He hurled "Fifine" to the other end of the room, and took up another work by the same poet. It was "Red Cotton Night-cap Country," and the title looked promising. No doubt a light and pretty fairy story. Also the beginning reeled itself off with a fatal facility which allured the reader

onward.

When the clock struck six he was sitting among the volumes on the table, with "Red Cotton Night-cap Country" still in his hand. His eyes were bloodshot, his hair was pushed in disorder about his head, his cheeks were flushed, his hands were trembling, the nerves in his face were twitching. . . . He could not stay any longer in the room. It seemed to

be haunted with ghosts of unintelligible sentences; things in familiar garb, which floated before his eyes and presented faces of inscrutable misery. He seized his hat and fled. He went straight to Jack Dunquerque's club, and found that hero in the reading-room.

"I have a favor to ask you," he began, in a hurried and nervous manner. "If you have not yet asked Mr. Robert Browning to the little

spread next week, don't."

"Certainly not, if you wish it. Why?" "Because, sir, I have spent eight hours over his works."

Jack laughed.
"And you think you have gone off your head? I'll tell you a secret. Every body does at first; and then we all fall into the dodge, and go about pretending to understand him."
"But the meaning, Mr. Dunquerque, the

meaning?"

"Hush! he hasn't got any. Only no one dares to say so, and it's intellectual to admire

"Well, Mr. Dunquerque, I guess I don't want to see that writer at my dinner, anyhow. "Very well, then; he shall not be asked."

"Another day like this, and you may bury me with my boots on. Come with me some-where, and have dinner as far away from those volumes of Mr. Browning as we can get in the time.

They dined at Greenwich. In the course of the next three days Gilead Beck read diligently. He did not master the three hundred volumes, but he got through some of the works of every

writer, taking them in turn.

The result was a glorious and inextricable mess. Carlyle, Swinburne, Huxley, Darwin, Tennyson, and all of them were hopelessly jumbled in his brains. He mixed up the "Sartor Resartus" with the "Missing Link," confounded the history of "Frederick the Great" with that of "Queen Elizabeth," and thought that "Maud" and "Atalanta in Calywere written by the same poet.-The Golden Butterfly (Harper).

WHITTIER ON KINGSLEY.—(Letter to Mrs. VV Kingsley, dated August 30, 1876).— DEAR FRIEND: I am glad to learn from a letter received from an American clergyman just returned from England, that thou art engaged in preparing a biography of thy lamented husband. It seems to me very fitting that the life-of such a man as Charles Kingsley should be written by one so fully acquainted with the noble and generous personal qualities of the reformer, poet, and theologian. In this country his memory is cherished by thousands, who, after long admiring the genius of the successful author, have learned, in his brief visit, to love him as a man.

"I shall never forget my first meeting with him in Boston. I began, naturally enough, to speak of his literary work, when he somewhat abruptly turned the conversation upon the great themes of life and duty. The solemn questions of a future life, and the final destiny of the race, seemed pressing upon him, not so much for an answer (for he had solved them all by simple faith in the Divine Goodness), as for the sympathetic response of one whose views he believed to be, in a great degree, coincident with his 'I sometimes doubt and distrust myself,' he said, 'but I see some hope for everybody To me the Gospel of Christ seems indeed Good Tidings of great joy to all people; and I think we may safely trust the mercy which endureth for ever.' It impressed me strongly to find the world-known author ignoring his literary fame, unobservant of the strange city whose streets he was treading for the first time, and engaged only with 'thoughts that wander engaged only with 'thoughts that wander through eternity.' All I saw of him left upon me the feeling that I was in contact with a profoundly earnest and reverent spirit. seemed overcharged with interest in the welfare, physical, moral, and spiritual, of his race. I was conscious in his presence of the bracing atmosphere of a noble nature. He seemed to me one of the manliest of men.

"I forbear to speak of the high estimate which, in common with all English-speaking people, I place upon his literary life-work. My copy of his 'Hypatia' is worn by frequent perusal, and the echoes of his rare and beautiful lyrics never die out of my memory. But since I have seen him, the man seems greater than the author. With profound respect and sympathy, I am truly thy friend, John G. Whittier."—Charles Kingsley, Letters and Memories (Scribner).

GOL, "THE RUSSIAN DICKENS."-In Rus-J sia the reaction first appeared in the æsthetic literature. Its first influential representative was Gógol (b. 1808, d. 1852), who may be called, in a certain sense, the Russian Dickens. A minute comparison of those two great humorists would perhaps show as many points of contrast as of similarity, but there is a strong superficial resemblance between them. both possessed an inexhaustible supply of broad humor and an imagination of marvellous vividness. Both had the power of seeing the ridiculous side of common things, and the talent of producing caricatures that had a wonderful semblance of reality. A little calm reflection would suffice to show that the characters presented are for the most part psychological impossibilities-one-sided types rather than living human beings; but on first making their acquaintance we are so struck with one or two life-like characteristics and various little details dexterously introduced, and at the same time we are so carried away by the overflowing fun of the narrative that we have neither time nor inclination to use our critical faculties. In a very short time Gógol's fame spread throughout the length and breadth of the empire, and many of his characters became as familiar to his countrymen as Sam Weller and Mrs. Gamp are to us. His descriptions were so graphicso like the world which every body knew! The characters seemed to be old acquaintances hit off to the life; and readers revelled in that peculiar pleasure which most of us derive from seeing our friends successfully mimicked. Even the Iron Tsar could not resist the fun and humor of "The Inspector" (Revizór), and not only laughed heartily, but also protected the author against the tyranny of the literary censors, who considered that the piece was not written in a sufficiently "well-intentioned" tone. In a word, the reading public laughed as

it had never laughed before, and this wholesome genuine merriment did much to destroy the morbid appetite for Byronic heroes and Romantic affectation.—Wallace's Russia (Holt).

THE RENAISSANCE.—The characteristic virtues and vices of the Renaissance are conspicuous throughout the works of Rabelais. The intoxication of the newly-revived classical learning, the moral revolution in the Church, the outburst of free thought, free speech, free action, the overcrowding of new ideas, and the dazzling splendor of new facts, all are present in the writings of this genial monk. Hear his pæan of triumph as he casts his mind over the luxuriant richness of the century in which it has pleased God to cast his lot:

"Now it is that the learned languages are to their pristine purity restored, viz. Greek, without which a man may be ashamed to account himself a scholar, Hebrew, Arabic, Chaldwan, and Latin. Printing likewise is now in use, so elegant and so correct, which has been found out in my time by divine inspiration, as, by a diabolical suggestion on the other side, was the invention of ordnance. All the world is full of learned men, of most learned schoolmasters, and vast libraries; and it appears to me, that neither in Plato's time, nor Cicero's, nor Papinian's, was there ever such conveniency for studying, as we see at this day there is. Nor must any adventurer henceforward come in public, or present himself in company, that has not been pretty well polished in the shop of Minerva. I see robbers, hangmen, adventurers, ostlers, more learned now than the doctors and preachers were in my time. What shall I say? The very women and maidens have aspired to this praise and celestial manna of good learning. Yet so it is, that at the age I am now of, I have been constrained to learn the Greek tongue, which I contemned not like Cato, but had not the leisure in my younger years to attend the study of it. And I take much delight in the reading of Plutarch's Morals, the pleasant Dialogues of Plato, the Monuments of Pausanias, and the Antiquities of Athenœus."—Van Laun's History of French Literature (Putnam).

THE FRENCH DRAMA.—The French drama contains some of the finest didactic poetry in the world, and is peculiarly adapted both to direct the reason and to control the passions. It is a well-lighted saloon of graceful eloquence, where the sword-knot is appended by the hand of Beauty, and where the snuff-box is composed of such brilliants as, after a peace or treaty, kings bestow on diplomatists. When-ever I read a French Alexandrine, I fancy I receive a box on the ear in the middle of it, and another at the end, sufficient, if not to pain, to weary me intolerably, and to make the book drop out of my hand. Molière and La Fontaine can alone by their homœopathy revive me. Such is the power of united wit and wisdom in ages the most desperate! These men, with Montaigne and Charron, will survive existing customs, and probably existing creeds. Millions will be captivated by them, when the eloquence of Bossuet himself shall interest ex-Yet the charms of language are tremely few. less liable to be dissipated by time than the sentences of wisdom. While the incondite volumes of more profound philosophers are no longer in existence, scarcely one of writers who enjoyed in a high degree the gift of eloquence is altogether lost. Among the Athenians there are indeed some; but in general they were worthless men, squabbling on worthless matters: we have little to regret, excepting of Phocion and of Pericles. If we turn to Rome, we retain all the best of Cicero; and we patiently and almost indifferently hear that

nothing is to be found of Marcus Antonius or Hortensius; for the eloquence of the bar is and ought always to be secondary.—Landor's Imaginary Conversations (Roberts).

ARLYLE IN "GOOD SPIRITS."-I remember being puzzled for a long while as to whether Carlyle did or did not care for fame. forever scoffing at it; and he seemed to me just the man to write because he needed to utter himself without ulterior considerations. One day I was dining there alone. I had brought over from America twenty-five copies of his "Sartor Resartus," as reprinted there; and, having sold them at the English price, I had some money to put into his hand. I did put it into his hand the first time, but it made him uncomfortable, and he spent it in a pair of signet rings for his wife and me (her motto being "Point de faiblesse," and mine "Frischzu!") This would never do; so having imported and sold a second parcel, the difficulty was what to do with the money. My friend and I found that Carlyle was ordered weak brandy and water instead of wine; and we spent our few sovereigns in French brandy of the best quality, which we carried over one evening when going to tea. Carlyle's amusement and delight at first, and all the evening after, whenever he turned his eyes toward the long-necked bottles, showed us that we had made a good choice. He declared that he had got a reward for his labors at last; and his wife asked me to dinner, all by myself, to taste the brandy. We three sat round the fire after dinner, and Carlyle mixed the toddy while Mrs. Carlyle and I discussed some literary matters, and speculated on fame and the love of it. Then Carlyle held out a glass of his mixture to me with, "Here—take this; it is worth all the fame in England."—Harriet Martineau's Autobiography (Osgood).

#### THE SPRING ANNOUNCEMENTS.

[Continued from page 1.]

S. C. GRIGGS & Co., who have already sold 40,000 copies of Prof. William Matthew's bright books, will tempt the palates of readers by a new volume in April, "Hours with Men and Books," a collection of papers, most of which have not before been in print. Among his topics are "Thomas De Quincey," "The Illusions of History," "A Day at Oxford," "Writing for the Press," "The Professorship of Books and Reading," and the works of several individual authors. A compilation of "Law for the Clergy," by Sandford A. Hudson, Esq., will be full, as its title-page indicates, of valuable information for the clergy of the Western States.

HARPER & BROTHERS have this spring a number of important books of travel—Hon. E. G. Squier's book on Peru, a book which is the fruit of much personal exploration, and has the advantage of several hundred illustrations; Commander Cameron's informing and fascinating record of his travels "Across Africa," which gives a remarkable study of the interior slave trade; and Mr. Arthur Arnold's account of a ride "Through Persia by Caravan," said to be the best modern account of that country. Samuel Smile's "Life of a Scotch Naturalist,"

is just ready and is a remarkable story of a man who by "self-help" raised himself to a high scientific position. A "Text-book of Harmony," by C. E. Horsley, a leading organist recently deceased, promises to be the best exposition of this subject for the use of general students. An edition of the text of Seneca, including four of the leading essays, the alleged correspondence between Paul and Seneca, and several of the epistles, with introduction and notes by President Hurst and Prof. Whiting; and "Aids to Latin Orthography," from the German of Brambach, a vocabulary of derivatives and disputed spellings, represent educa-tional literature. The next addition to the brown-paper novels will be "Nora's Love Test," a bright English story by Mary Cecil Hay. This house is just sending out the first issues of a new "Half-Hour Series," tastefully wrapped paper 32mos, in which all sorts of literary odds and ends will find a place, and which will sell at from 10 to 25 cents a number. The first on the list are " Christmas at Thompson Hall," by Anthony Trollope, fully illustrated; "When the Ship Comes Home," a brief story by the authors of "The Golden Butterfly;" Mr. E. A. Freeman's historical sketch of "The Turks in Europe;" and Charles and Mary Lamb's "Tales from Shakespeare," in two numbers. Harper and Brothers are also pushing

Henry Holt & Co., who have in Wallace's "Russia" the book of travel of the year, expect to publish during the spring Lewis H. Morgan's new volume on "Ancient Society," a work likely to be an authority in the study of human progress; the manual of "Classical Literature," with chapters on Oriental literatures, by C. A. White; and a new book by Moncure D. Conway, "Idols and Ideals." To the popular "Leisure Hour Series" will be added the third volume of Auerbach's new village stories, "Aloys," and his "Poet and Merchant;" Bessie Lang." by Alice Corkran; "In Change Unchanged," by Linda Villari; and Lola," by Arthur Griffiths.

HURD & HOUGHTON have in preparation the new book of that sunshiny writer on nature, Mr. John Burroughs, in which he chats of "Birds and Poets" and other subjects, as well as revised editions of his previous popular books. Their improved editions of the British Poets, of Dickens, Scott, and De Quincey, are being steadily pushed forward and should not be overlooked.

LEE & SHEPARD have in preparation, as specially suited at least to the present Boston atmosphere, a volume on "The Supernatural Factor in Revivals," by Professor L. T. Townsend, author of "Credo" and several other popular religious works; also a new book of European travel, "Abroad Again; or, Fresh Forays in Foreign Fields," by Curtis Guild, whose "Over the Ocean" has proved so acceptable to the public; the "Young Folks' Book of American Explorers," by the very competent hands of Colonel T. W. Higginson, and fully illustrated; a new edition of Murray's Adirondack book; a new Optic book, "Out West; or, Roughing it on the Great Lakes;" a new "Winwood Cliff" book, by Rev. Daniel Wise, entitled "Ben Brinker; or, Maggie's Golden Motto, and what it did for her Brother;" a new book by Samuel Woodworth Cozzens, "Crossing the Quicksands; or, Ned and Hal on the Pacific

Slope;" and a fresh "Flaxie Frizzle" story by Sophie May, "Flaxie Frizzle and Doctor Papa."

J. B. LIPPINCOTT & Co. have very nearly ready Rev. Wm. R. Alger's "Life of Edwin Forrest," for which the materials have been gleaned from an extraordinary mass of facts, critiques, etc., left by Mr. Forrest and which, with its many illustrations, will be the most interesting contribution to the literature of the theatrical profession for many years. The third volume of Mr. Furness' variorum edition of Shakespeare, a great credit to American scholar-ship, will be "Hamlet." Centennial literature will have a further representative in "Worthy Women of the First Century," which Mrs. A. L. Wister edits. For novels, there is early promise of Ouida's new book, "Ariadne;"
"Mignon," a new story by the popular authoress of "Diana Carew," Mrs. Forrester;
Mrs. Lynn Linton's latest, "The World Well Lost;" "Warda," from the German of Geo. Ebers; one of Daudet's novels, "The Nabob;" and "Her Lovers," by Sue H. Claggett. For the boys, a Wolvertonian gives a narrative of "Three Years at Wolverton," one of the great English public schools, a book which is compared to "Tom Brown." Prof. Haldeman's "Outlines of Etymology" is also in press. This house is also issuing the "Library of Contemporary Science," to be completed in twelve volumes, of which one is out.

LITTLE, BROWN & Co. have just ready the first of three volumes, comprising a "Dictionary of Christian Biography, Literature, Sects, and Doctrines, from the Time of the Apostles to the Age of Charlemagne." Various writers have cooperated in preparing this compendious work, such as Professors Lightfoot, Westcott, Swainson, and Cowell of Cambridge (England), Bright and Stubbs of Oxford, and Professor Salmon of Dublin, with others of like ability. The editorial supervision of the work is in the very competent hands of William Smith, whose name is a guarantee of whatever excellence a dictionary should possess, and Rev. Professor Wace. A work of this scope under such auspices needs no commendation.

LOCKWOOD, BROOKS & Co. will publish in April a volume of discourses connected with the Boston revival movement, entitled "The Great Invitation and other Sermons," including discourses by Rev. Dr. A. H. Vinton, Rev. W. W. Newton, and Prof. Gray, Episcopalians; Rev. Messrs. Alden, Herrick, McKenzie Grout, and Joseph Cook, Congregationalists; Dr. Lorimer, Mr. Gordon, and Prof. Caldwell, Baptists; Pres. Warren and Dr. Mallalieu, Methodists; Dr. Peabody and Rev. Rufus Ellis, Unitarians; and other clergymen of Boston and immediate vicinity. Other spring issues by this house will be a paper-cover octavo by S. G. W. Benjamin, "What is Art?" and in paper, for summer reading, "Student Life at Harvard," which has proved quite popular; "The Frau Domina," one of the pleasantest of recent German stories; and a volume of the "Tales for Travellers," by E. E. Hale and others, which have hitherto been in several thin pamphlets.

D. LOTHROP & Co. announce "The Great American Evangelists, Moody and Sankey, and their Work," with biographical sketches of the lamented P. P. Bliss, whose songs have added so much to the effect of Mr. Moody's sermons,

and of Dr. Eben Tourjee, the religious musical conductor of Boston,—with illustrations; "Osgood's Rebellion."

LOVELL, ADAM, WESSON & Co. will have ready soon Mr. W. L. Alden's collection of "Domestic Explosions," from his humorous contributions to the editorial columns of the New York *Times*, which will certainly be one of the best books of humor a-going, and they are also issuing a number of reprints of standards and other volumes.

Macmillan & Co. have in preparation for the "Golden Treasury" series Mr. Palgrave's selections from Herrick, and for the "Globe Library," an edition of Milton by Prof. Masson, the fourth volume of whose life of Milton is also nearly ready. From Matthew Arnold there will be a new edition of his Poetical Works, with additional poems, in two volumes, and a collection of "Last Essays on Church and Religion." Mr. E. A. Freeman's history of "The Ottoman Power in Europe" will match his book on the Saracens, and is likely to be one of the leading books of the year. Rev. E. A. Abbott's new religious volume, "Through Nature to Christ," will, it is thought, attract wide attention. In science, there is promise of a new work by Prof. Lockyer, "Star Gazing: past and present," finely illustrated; Sir W. Thomson's report of "The Voyage of the 'Challenger'—The Atlantic," in sumptuous fashion; an elementary book on "Physical Geography," by Prof. Geikie; and, in "Nature Series," "The Science of Weighing and Measuring," by the English warden of the standards.

THE NATIONAL TEMPERANCE SOCIETY has in progress a "Prohibitionists' Text-Book," and a discussion of "Gospel Temperance," by Rev. J. M. Van Buren.

Nelson & Phillips, the Methodist Book Concern, promise one book of wide interest to general readers in a biography of "The Protestant Queen of Navarre, the Mother of the Bourbons," written by Miss Virginia F. Townsend; they announce also two volumes of sketches by "Annie Myrtle," "Pictures from our Portfolio" and "Illustrated Historical Sketches;" and a "Boy's Pocket Library," to be made up of such classics as "Rab and his Friends."

James R. Osgood & Co. will publish this spring "Deephaven," a volume of charming Maine sketches, by Miss Sarah O. Jewett; Henry James' new story "The American," which has attracted more attention and won far higher praise, during its appearance serially in the Atlantic, than any of Mr. James' previous stories; Mr. Howells' delightful comedy-story, "Out of the Question," which shows him at his best in character-sketching and literary felicity; Felix Narjoux's "Notes of a Journey in the Northwest of Europe, by an Architect," translated from the French by John Peto, and illustrated with many curious and many beautiful original sketches,—a book of decided attractions for practitioners and lovers of architecture; the third volume (first of the second series) of G. H. Lewes' "Problems of Life and Mind," on "The Physical Basis of Mind," a work of no interest to the multitude, but profoundly engaging to thoughtful readers; additional volumes in Mr. Longfellow's library of "Poems

of Places," including first Italy, then probably Spain and Portugal, Greece, Switzerland, and Germany; and sundry additions, not yet positively announceable, to the "Vest Pocket Series" of capital little books full of good things.

T. B. Peterson & Bros. promise a new series under the title of "Peterson's Dollar Series of Good Novels," in which a great deal, we are informed, is to be given for the money. A binding of blue vellum cloth, embossed with black and gold, has been designed for them, and the first will be the Countess of Blessington's novel of "Country Quarters."

JOHN E. POTTER & Co. have in progress their "Illustrated Hand-Book to all Religions," which is intended to be the most comprehensive manual of this important subject issued in

popular shape.

G. P. Putnam's Sons, have one of the most important of the spring lists, but many of their books have already been issued. There remain Mr. John Habberton's new book, "The Scripture Club of Valley Rest; or, Sketches of Everybody's Neighbors," which is likely to be as taking as his previous volumes; a new work by Miss Warner later in the spring; Mr. Froth-ingham's recent sermons, "The Spirit of the New Faith;" and the revised edition of Bastiat's " Essays on Political Economy," edited by Hon. David A. Wells. To these are to be added, in the medical and educational fields, Mrs. Putnam Jacobi's prize essay on "The Question of Rest for Woman," Prof. Newberry's "Class-Book in Geology," and Thorpe's manual, in the "Advanced Science Series," on "Inorganic Chemistry—Metals," Dr. Cutter's " Dictionary of German Terms used in Mediand several important pamphlets published for "The State Charities Aid Associa-tion." During the Trade Sale, this house advertises special discounts on its lines.

A. D. F. RANDOLPH & Co. have in press a monograph by Dr. Hurst, President of Drew Theological Seminary, reviewing "Our Theological Century," and claiming for American theologians an effective and wholesome influence on European theology; also, a concordance to the Authorized Version of the Psalms and to the Psalter of the Book of Common Prayer, compiled by a New York lady—a work especially interesting to Episcopalians and to other admirers of the beautiful English of the Prayer Book. The Life of the Rev. Geo. Whitefield, by Rev. L. Tyerman, who has come to be accepted as the Methodist biographer, should prove an interesting contribution to general biographical literature. The first volume of the Old Testament division of the popular "Biblical Museum," a commentary sui generis, is nearly ready.

ROBERTS BROTHERS will this spring complete their excellent library edition (that is, good for every library) of Landor's unrivalled "Imaginary Conversations;" and will make considerable additions to their "Town and Country" and "No Name Series." To the former, auspiciously begun with "Ben Milner's Wooing," will be added "Syrian Sunshine," a witty volume of travel by Thomas G. Appleton, in continuation of, or succession to, his Nile volume; "A Winter Story," by the writer whose "Rose Garden" has made welcome other stories from the same hand; an earnest and sincere religious book, "From Traditional to Rational Faith; or, The

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